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Karen Antonacci

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Potosi



Monday November 12 7:00 pm Student Union Theater Test Screening

UTPA Alum to screen film at Cannes

Online

Double Major

New option for finance and economics students

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Men's basketball wins the 'Ice man' classic opener

Online

Basketball home schedule

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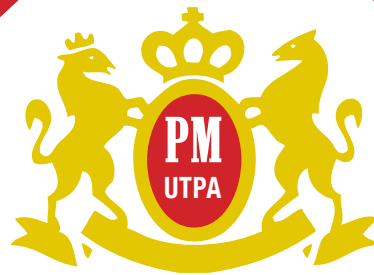


The Tippy Canvas

Sip and express: A new twist on an old hobby



SPOTLIGHT ON



Smoking

NEW TASK FORCE REVIEWS UNIVERSITY TOBACCO POLICY

By Karina Vargas The Pan American

Across the nation, smoke-free university campuses are becoming a trend. As a result, UTPA President Robert Nelsen created a new task force to tackle to the smoking issue on campus.

At least 826 colleges or universities in the U.S. have adopted 100 percent smoke-free campus policies, according to No-smoke.org.

Richard Costello is the UTPA director of Environmental Health and Safety, as well as the business affairs member of the Tobacco on Campus Task Force. He believes changing the smoking policy could bring more

funds to the University.

"(Changing the smoking policy) is not going to be purely a health-based decision. Grants are tied to non-smoking campuses," Costello said. "One dynamic reason the campus would ban smoking is to potentially have more grants coming in."

The Tobacco on Campus Task Force is made up of two students, three faculty members and six staff members. It was established this semester by Nelsen in order to make a recommendation regarding UTPA's smoking policy, by January 2013.

The actions of the task force include reviewing existing smoke-free policies, conducting focus groups

and/or surveys on campus, researching the policies that exist at other institutions, and lastly, recommending a course of action to improve the smoking policy.

Nelsen decided to revisit the policy because of the increasing number of research grants that require the University to certify that it is tobacco-free, as well the rising concern about the effects of second-hand smoke, according to an email he sent to the members of the task force.

"We don't have a goal, per se," Weaver said. "Our charge is to make a recommendation to the president by early next year."

The University's current policy,

which was passed in 1990, bans smoking within 25 feet of an entrance to a building, inside buildings and inside University vehicles. That year was UTPA's first step into becoming a smoke-free campus by identifying non-smoking areas at the University. UTPA's current policy doesn't ban smoking on covered walkways and sidewalks.

Michael Weaver, Faculty Senate member on the task force and history professor at UTPA, said the task force is currently in the research stages of making changes to the current policy.

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Letters to the Editor

The Pan American accepts letters of 300 words or less from students, staff and faculty regarding recent newspaper content, campus concerns or current events. We cannot publish anonymous letters or submissions containing hate speech or gratuitous personal attacks.

Please send all letters to: thepanamerican@gmail.com

CORRECTION:

The Pan American Volume 69, No. 10, "Diwali in the Valley" listed the three Hindu worlds as Earth, Sky and pata. It should be the physical, mental and spiritual universes.



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Vol. 69, No. 11

THE PAN AMERICAN
thepanamerican@gmail.com

1201 West University, CAS 170
Edinburg, Texas 78539
Phone: (956) 665-2541
Fax: (956) 316-7122

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:

Karen Antonacci

NEWS EDITOR:

Daniella Diaz

SPORTS EDITOR:

Norma Gonzalez

ARTS & LIFE EDITOR:

Lea Victoria Juarez

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR:

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SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR:

David Alvarado

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Next Delivery:
Nov. 29 at noon

Double major available in business college

By **Jose S. De Leon III**
The Pan American

If there is one thing that economics professor Alberto Davila wants to make clear, it's that the recently announced double major for economics and finance is not new. Davila, the chair for the Economics and Finance Department, always advised students to double major.

"It was an overlap in courses," Davila explained. "What we essentially did was create a plan to fulfill the degree requirements for both majors."

Before the announcement on Sept. 4 during the semester's first meeting for the Economic Society, a student majoring in finance could take 30 hours of economics electives, and vice versa for finance majors.

The minimum number of hours required for either an eco-

nomics or finance degree plan is 120, or four academic years with full course loads. However, the degree plan for the double major has a minimum requirement of 135 hours, one extra semester.

nomics major)," Contreras said.

Because the joint degree plan calls for only an extra 15 credit hours, the department saw it as a way to attract students to join the program.

DOUBLE MAJOR OFFERED

120 hours ▶ Normal Degree
135 hours ▶ Economics & Finance Double Major ▶ **15** EXTRA HOURS

Salvador Contreras, an economics professor, explained why students couldn't technically double major in both before the revision of the degree plan.

"Since there was so much overlap between these two degrees, we added this in for students wanting to take advantage (of the dou-

"There's something powerful about the package," Contreras said. "It'll have a significant impact on how students go out into the business world."

Among the students who decided to change his degree plan to accommodate the double major was Jose Luis Briones, presi-

dent of the Economics Society student organization.

"I think it makes a graduate more marketable when he's looking for a job," the 22-year-old Dallas native said. "The skill-sets

and finance go hand in hand," said the 22-year-old native from Ghana, in West Africa.

Danso is a finance major who couldn't switch to the degree plan because he's planning on graduating in the spring, and will start grad school next fall.

"If it was announced earlier, I would've done the switch," he said. "But I don't have the time to do an extra semester of school."

Davila said that so far, a total of seven students have transitioned to the new degree plan since its announcement, but the number is expected to rise.

According to Contreras, even though students were able to double major before, graduates who did so didn't have it recognized on their degree. The information was available on their transcripts though.

Spotlight on smoking continued from Page 1...

"We're contacting other schools, in Texas primarily, to see what they're doing," Weaver said. "We're putting together a survey for faculty, students and staff and we (will) ask if they think the policy should apply to all tobacco products, because right now our University policy only deals with smoking, not with chewing tobacco or any other form of tobacco usage."

The previous survey showed that the majority of the UTPA community did not smoke and that a minority opposed changing the policy, according to Weaver.

After the task force completes their research in January 2013, they will propose new regulations for smokers, to Nelsen.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 20.1 percent of adults between the ages of 18 to 24 smoked cigarettes in 2010.

Cassy Little, a 21-year-old sophomore business major at UTPA, thinks stricter rules regarding designated smoking areas may be in order.

"I feel like students can smoke if they have their own area," Little said. "I am against students smoking on the walkway, and

their smoke blows in my face... I just don't like it. They should be smoking away from people and the buildings."

However, Gabriel Rodriguez, a student smoker, believes that changing the smoking policy won't work unless someone regulates it.

"I think if someone was really enforcing the current rules, smokers would follow them," the freshman English major said. "I like the way it is now. The school can make whatever rules they want, but in the end if they don't enforce them, it won't work."

Costello said smokers will probably not get any flack from University police should the policy change.

"I think the police department may have more important things to police than enforcing rules on cigarette smokers," he commented.

If the University becomes a completely smoke-free campus in the future, Weaver said that an absolute ban would be harder on staff smokers than anyone else.

"If you're not in class, you can go off campus and smoke," he said. "Staff members are tied to campus and they may get a

50-minute or an hour break for lunch. But by the time you get out to your car, go off campus, smoke a cigarette and come back, your whole lunch break would be gone because you can't smoke at restaurants anymore."

According to Weaver, the location of the University makes it inconvenient for a student to walk

off-campus for a smoke.

"I would be happier about an absolute ban if it would be easier for us to just walk across the street somewhere to smoke," he said. "But with the traffic flow, with no underpasses or overpasses across the street, it's dangerous crossing University Drive or Sugar Road."

At the moment, however, it doesn't look like the University will become a completely smoke-free campus any time soon. Any changes made to the current policy would happen gradually, according to Weaver.

For now, smokers can heave a collective sigh of relief.



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WITH THE 'HEART-STEALERS'

Professor researches gorillas at Gladys Porter Zoo

By Karen Perez
The Pan American

For UTPA psychology professor James-Aldridge, spending time observing captive mother gorillas embrace their new bundles of joy at the zoo is not only research, but a heart-warming experience.

"I call them heart-stealers; they are all just fascinating," James-Aldridge said about the primates. "You can't help it; you get attached to them as you get more involved in their soap opera lives."

The Kansas City native has been working on a maternal behavior study with a group of western lowland gorillas at Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville since 2005.

The observational behavior study includes three gorilla

mothers named Martha, Penney and Mary. The three are sisters, close in age, and have lived with in the same group all their lives; all were raised by humans.

James-Aldridge explained that because of this, they were in danger of becoming unsuccessful mothers, meaning they would fail to raise their children.

The primatologist said that in the past it was common for Gladys Porter Zoo to exhibit baby gorillas and chimpanzees in the nurseries since their mothers would refuse to raise them. However, recent studies by James-Aldridge prove otherwise as more human-reared gorilla mothers are beginning to raise their own children.

Out of the three gorilla mothers observed by James-Aldridge, both Martha and Penney became successful mothers be-

cause they nurtured and raised their offspring. Mary, who was recently sent to a zoo in Tampa, Florida, was the unsuccessful mother who refused to nurture her children.

James-Aldridge, who received her Ph.D. in experimental psychology from Oklahoma State in 1975, attributes this finding to each gorilla's social behavior.

"The two successful mothers seem to be more social overall than the less successful mother," she said of her discoveries. "It suggests that they find social interactions more appealing (and less stressful) than the unsuccessful mother does."

Martha, known as the super mom, has not only raised five children but her sister Mary's four children as well. Penney, the cautious mother, has only had two children but is expecting to give

birth to her third anytime soon.

"We have a lot of data from Martha but not much from Penney. She hasn't had a baby since four years ago. We will see if she is as careful and cautious with her new baby as she was with her last," James-Aldridge said. "I also look forward to finding more detail in the different mothering styles of the successful mothers."

James-Aldridge also attributes high and low rankings to the mother gorilla's social interactions. Martha has a higher ranking than Penney, who is lowest ranking among the entire group. She explained that it may be due to both personality traits and physical characteristics.

"Martha is a good mom, very careful but she lets her kids go fairly quickly," James-Aldridge said. "Penney is much more cautious with her babies. One of the reasons we think may be the case is that Martha is higher ranking in the group, which means they push their kids out to become independent sooner."

Prior to the maternal behavior study, which brought James-Aldridge to the gorillas, she began primate research at the Gladys Porter Zoo in 1977 by teaching baby orangutans and gorillas American Sign Language until 1983. In 1987, she began observational studies with chimpanzees.

Primates are the human's closest biological relatives, which offers researchers the opportunity to learn from them. This is the primary purpose behind James-Aldridge's research.

"We are very, very similar to primates," said James-Aldridge, originally from Kansas City. "Frequently, when I'm at the zoo I'll hear visitors and kids say, 'Oh gee, they're just like us,' and I think to myself, 'Oh gee, we are just like them.'"

James-Aldridge said she tries to visit and conduct research at the zoo at least one afternoon a week where she also donates her time to the zoo's research program. She described the experience as "therapeutic."

The UTPA professor, who started her first job at the University in 1974, teaches courses in statistics for psychology and research methods. During the spring semesters James-Aldridge alternates in animal behavior and primate behavior courses,



Norma Gonzalez/The Pan American

Psychology professor Wendy James-Aldridge explains her research process in her office at UTPA.

using the zoo as a lab for her classes. She also provides students the opportunity to assist in conducting research at the zoo.

"I don't always have time to do research myself, which is why I have trained my research assistants to collect data," she said. "It's a lot of work but the students are very helpful."

While the professor main-

my major since it allowed me the freedom to explore other fields, such as biology and anthropology. Primate behavior straddles all those disciplines. But I guess you can say I still don't know what I want to be when I grow up."

For now, James-Aldridge continues spending time researching captive primates at Gladys Porter Zoo.

You can't help it; you get attached to them as you get more involved in their soap opera lives.

- Wendy James-Aldridge
Psychology professor

tains a close relationship in studying primates at the zoo, the experiences were not always what she had in mind.

"As an undergraduate student, I switched my major three times in the first three semesters," James-Aldridge said, laughing. "My last choice was psychology. I choose to call it

"I love going to the zoo; it gets me out of the office," she said. "It's important to watch these animals (because) it helps me keep focused. When life gets complicated, spending time with the gorillas helps remind me of life's simplicities."

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Not a typical Thanksgiving

In a culturally diverse area such as the Valley, *The Pan American* sought out students who celebrate Thanksgiving with non-traditional dishes. This is what some members of the University community had to share.

Turducken

Chicken in a duck in a turkey with layers of stuffing

April Cartwright
Sophomore from Edinburg



Pansit

A Filipino dish that literally means noodles in Tagalog

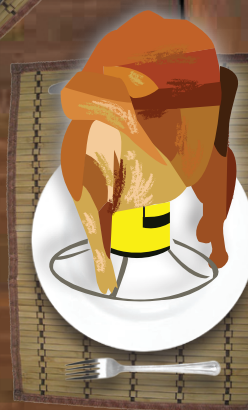
Lynette May Sanez
Sophomore from Richmond, Virginia



Drunken chicken

Poultry flavored with beer, stuffed with vegetables and coated with mustard and butter

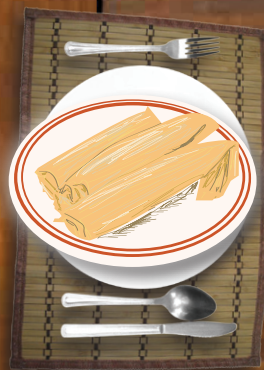
Alexandra Landin
Freshman from Colima, Mexico



Tamales

corn husk-wrapped Mexican cuisine best when made by grandmas

Ross Gonzalez
Sophomore from Pharr



Carne guisada

slow-simmered beef stew with red sauce and tortillas

Mary Salazar
Chick-Fil-A employee from Quincy, Washington



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Bianca Guerra
UTPA alum from McAllen



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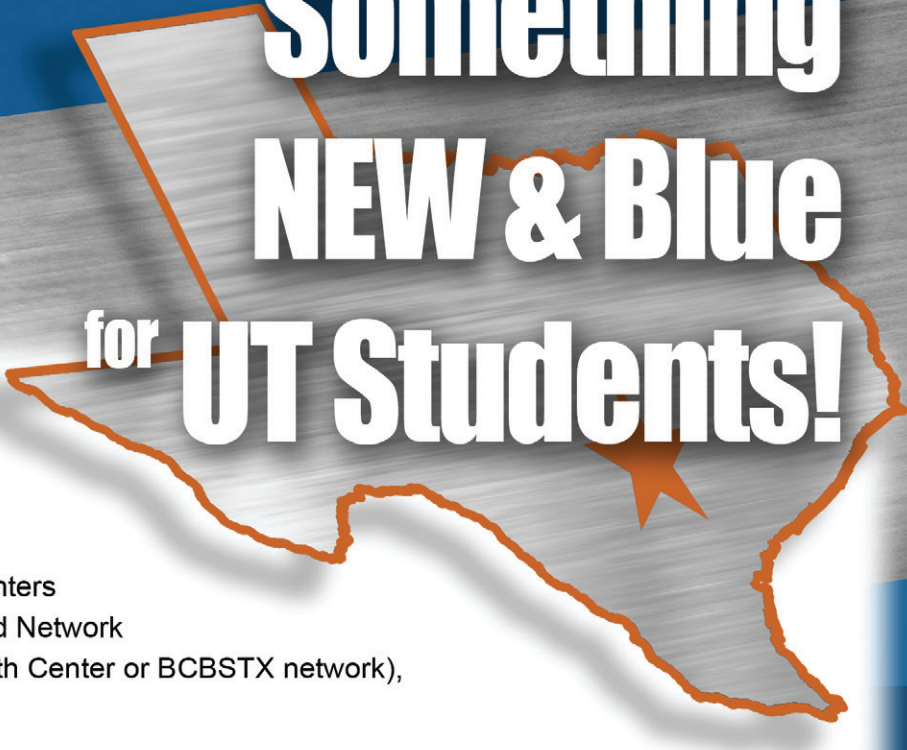
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BFA exhibit equips seniors for careers in design

By Niva Avila
The Pan American

Every semester, graphic designers enter ART 4393 Senior Exhibit as students and leave as professionals. Through time management, teamwork and hands-on experience, the course prepares graphic design students to develop an exhibition that reflects their creativity from idea to finished product. This fall's exhibit is different than those in past semesters, since this is the first time students have had the unique opportunity to create for actual clients.

Sin Lucros, or "without profit" is the theme for this semester's exhibit, reflecting the task that the graphic designers had of creating campaigns for local non-profit organizations. Some of these include the International Museum of Art and Science, the South Texas Literacy Coalition, and the Edinburg Public Library.

The public will be able to view their work at the opening reception Saturday, Nov. 17, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Art Annex located at 2412 S. Closer Blvd. in Edinburg.

These organizations cover the students' printing costs and attend two or three meetings with students to give feedback on the

design process, because the campaign materials will be used by the organizations in 2013. The clients also cover the application fee for students to enter their work in the Addy Awards, a major advertising competition coming up in January.

The instructor, Leila Hernandez, serves as a mediator between the non-profit clients and students. She guides the latter through the entire process from developing a concept to thoroughly executing the final work.

"The students have to create 10 to 15 pieces for the clients, like brochures, posters and invitations," the associate professor of art said. "One student, for example, is designing materials for the annual College fundraiser at the IMAS. This entails putting together anything that they need to advertise."

Creating promotional material for the organizations is only part of the major project these seniors have to complete for their concentration in graphic design. They also had to put together a portfolio that displays everything they've created during their time at the University and develop a professional process book, which is a compilation of the entire design experience.

The process book is made

up of several steps. The mission statement for the organization they have done the design for should show the importance that the non-profit bears on society. The students' creative strategy must be reflected in the design proposal, specifically detailing how and why they're making certain materials. An elaborate design process needs to showcase all sketches, thumbnails and a clear evolution of not only the campaign, but of the process book itself. Finally, the students must prepare a 3-to-5 minute presentation that will be given on the night of the opening reception.

During the final stage of this senior project, designers had to actually put the exhibit together, which includes working with space and time management, preparing the gallery walls and properly installing the pieces in a way that allows for easy removal after the exhibit. The seniors were also in charge of publicizing the event, as well organizing the reception with music and food. Through all of this work, Hernandez has seen considerable growth in her students.

"Some of them I've had

I drew inspiration from Swiss design, which is very clean and overall gives our design a contemporary aesthetic.

- Kristopher Ryan Garcia
Senior graphic design major

from the very beginning and I've seen their work develop over the years," she said. "I feel very confident about this group because I've requested so much from them and they've been able to perform."

One of these students is Kristopher Ryan Garcia, a senior graphic design major who is very excited to graduate. He has been drawing for years, and gathers much of his inspiration from music. A jack of many trades, he has worked as a cook, cashier, waiter and office assistant, and is currently interning at Blue Thing Media Group in McAllen, a company that provides

consultation on design, marketing, advertising and IT (information technology) services.

"I can't give away too much, but what I can say is that my partner Leah Lowman and I drew inspiration from Swiss design, which is very clean and overall gives our design a contemporary aesthetic," the Brownsville native said.

As a part of the course, a requirement for the seniors was honoring 10 hours of work for the UTPA Galleries. The volunteer work could include doing graphic design for a gallery or helping prepare a gallery space by cleaning walls or painting.

Students were also able to help by taking part in mounting and dismounting a show, assisting during opening night and monitoring the gallery during hours of operation. Garcia and his classmates used this experience to set up the gallery this past weekend at the Annex for their upcoming presentation, careful to meet the required standards of quality, creativity and concept.

"We all have been working so hard for this and it's going to be a spectacular exhibit that will be remembered," Garcia promised.



Natalia Rocafuerte/The Pan American

Reenacting the past to seek inspiration

Lorenzo Pace to participate in Peruvian sculpture contest

By Karen Villarreal
The Pan American

Lorenzo Pace, design professor, will watch the slaying of the last Inca king from on stage through the eyes of a Congolese slave.

Robert Bradley, assistant professor of art history, along with two other art faculty members, four graduate students and two undergraduates reenacted the first meeting of the Inca and the Spanish 480 years ago in Peru, when the Inca King Atahualpa was taken prisoner by the Spaniards, Bradley said. "He is held captive in a house in the city of Cajamarca and offers gold - a room full of gold - in exchange for his life. They take the gold but kill him anyway."

Bradley is interested in researching Chachapoya (an in-

digenous culture conquered by the Inca before the Spanish arrived in Peru) architecture and Inca road networks. He explained the story they reenacted Thursday for the public.

"The Inca King Atahualpa was taken prisoner by the Spaniards," Bradley said. "He is held captive in a house in the city of Cajamarca and offers gold - a room full of gold - in exchange for his life. They take the gold but kill him anyway."

Pace said his African-American heritage makes him sympathetic to the Inca, whose culture was destroyed by foreigners the way his was centuries ago in Africa.

"The conquest, the slaying of a king, and the brutality of it - that's the African-American

story," Pace said. "(African-Americans) were brought here as three-fourths of a human at the beginning of the Americas, so that's where I come in."

Pace hoped the reenactment will help him get inspired and emotionally connected to his entry for Cajamarca, Peru's Second Bicentennial International Symposium of Sculpture, a wood-sculpting contest that commemorates the city's independence from Spain.

The 10 participants of the *Segundo Simposio Internacional de Escultura 'Bicentenario'*, as it's called in Spanish, were selected from around the world by cultural association *Arco Iris* to work for eight days on their own eight-foot wooden log. The finished sculptures will be trans-

ported to and displayed in the Belen Plaza in the city.

Pace was previously commissioned to design a monument in New York City's Foley Square to pay homage to the colonial-era slave burial ground which was unearthed at the site in 1991. He worked for 10 years on the design of the 50 foot tall, 300 ton black granite sculpture titled "Triumph of the Human Spirit."

Bradley, who lived in North Peru for many years, will be accompanying Pace to record the event.

"They will be able to decorate the whole city with these totems," he said, speculating that the city will continue to host this sculpture contest.

Extended article will be available online.



Design professor Lorenzo Pace plays a drum during rehearsal for Thursday's reenactment in the Student Union Theater.



TOURNEY AHEAD, WINNER ABOARD

Story and photo by Norma Gonzalez
The Pan American

The Broncos (10-18), who have had the best record since the 2007 season, are gearing up for the Great West Conference Tournament Friday and Satur-

day in Utah.

Head Coach Brian Yale used these last few home practices to fine-tune a few kinks within the team. He believes their side out game hasn't been as effective as it was earlier in the season.

"We can take care of that

first ball on our side and then slow down the other teams on their first ball swings," Yale said. "We're willing to rally, we're capable of rallying, and that'll keep us in a few more points here and there. It's a side out game on both sides."

First, the Broncos will face the GWC No. 2 Utah Valley University on Friday. According to Yale, the Wolverines (16-8, 7-1 GWC) are a big, tall, strong team that like to hit and block.

"If we can get the ball past

the block more consistently then we're going to keep ourselves in the match and have a great opportunity to win," Yale said. "I think we match up pretty well, we just didn't play as well as we could the last time we were out there, so we get another shot at that, which is good."

The first time these two opponents faced off, it was taken to five. Backed up by 406 fans in the bleachers, the Broncos took the first two sets, but ultimately dropped the match 3-2. According to team captain Juri Franzen, the team wants revenge for that night, because they came so close to winning.

"When we play a good team we play really good also. It helps us out and we have just got to keep working hard at practice- keep having the energy we've been having this week because we've been doing really well," Franzen said. "If we are all in, on the same page and leave everything on the court, we should come out with the win for sure."

Although the Broncos are entering the tourney following a loss, libero Franzen is leading the team with recently earned honors and accolades.

The senior broke into the top 10 in career digs (948) and

leads the 20+ digs matches with 16. Franzen was also named GWC Defensive Player of the week, Tuesday morning due to her 71 digs in the past three games.

"It was my second time making it so, you know, it's a good way to end regular conference play you know," Franzen said. "It keeps me motivated to kick ass."

Coach Yale believes, had Franzen been here four years instead of two, she could have accomplished even more and build on her record. He understands how vital Franzen has been to the program and is working on finding her replacement.

"She's done a great job for us in the two years that she's had, and I'm looking forward to a great weekend for her," Yale said. "All those individual things are great, but I know she'd love to hang a banner in the gym and get the championship ring and all that, so that's our goal."

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Saturday	12/15	Lamar	7:00 P.M.
Saturday	12/22	Nebraska at Omaha	7:00 P.M.
Saturday	1/12	Fisher College	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday	1/16	Houston-Tolliotson	7:00 P.M.
Saturday	1/19	Houston Baptist	4:30 P.M.
Saturday	1/19	Utah Valley	7:00 P.M.
Tuesday	1/29	Oklahoma Panhandle State	7:00 P.M.
Saturday	2/2	NJIT	4:30 P.M.
Saturday	2/2	Chicago State	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday	2/6	CSU Bakersfield	7:00 P.M.
Thursday	2/14	CSU Bakersfield	7:00 P.M.
Saturday	2/16	Utah Valley State	4:30 P.M.
Saturday	2/16	Houston Baptist	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday	2/27	New Orleans	7:00 P.M.
Sunday	3/3	New Orleans	2:00 P.M.
Saturday	3/9	Chicago State	4:30 P.M.
Saturday	3/9	NJIT	7:00 P.M.

Men's Schedule in Gray

Women's Schedule in Gray

Seeking Female Egg Donors

Are you?

- Age 21-30 years old
- Healthy, normal weight
- Completed a high school diploma
- Non-Smoker, Non-drug user

If you fit the criteria and are interested in becoming an egg donor, please call Norma:

(956) 687-2215 or apply online:
www.conceiveababy.com



Your donation will help infertile couples achieve their dream of having a child.

Our office hours are:
Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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Suite 103 • McAllen, Texas 78503
(956) 687-2215

You will be compensated

\$4,000+

after completing the donation cycle

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THE VALLEY'S FERTILITY CENTER



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Exchange a gift for a
smile!... and a t-shirt

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USMC Toys for Tots
campaign is to provide a smile
by providing a new toy in its
original packaging to a child
of low resources of the
Rio Grande Valley.

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